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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Norio ISHIBASHI et al.

TITLE: CONTAINER, FROZEN MATERIAL PACKAGING BODY, AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING PACKAGING BODY

AMENDED CLAIMS

1-6 (cancelled)

7. (new) A frozen material packaging body comprising:

a container formed using a laminated body including at least a thin layer of paper and a thin layer of aluminum; and

a vent port covered with an air-permeable filter material,

made from an unwoven paper having microbial impermeability and air permeability of a range of 5 to 10000 sec/100 cc under JIS-P8117(Gurley method), and formed at least in a portion the container; and

frozen culture filled in the container.

8. (new) A frozen material packaging body according to Claim 7, wherein

the frozen culture is frozen pellets of bifidobacteria.

9. (new) A method of manufacturing a frozen material packaging body comprising:

a step of forming a pellet-like frozen culture by dropping a culture that is incubated in a liquid medium through liquid nitrogen along with the liquid medium;

a step of filling the pellet-like frozen culture in a a container formed using a laminated body including at least a thin layer of paper and a thin layer of aluminum and having, at least in a portion the container, a vent port covered with

an air-permeable filter material, made from an unwoven paper having microbial impermeability and air permeability of a range of 5 to 10000 sec/100 cc under JIS-P8117(Gurley method); and

a step of hermetically sealing the container thus filled.

10. (new) A method of freezing and fermenting a culture comprising:

a step of forming a pellet-like frozen culture by dropping the culture, incubated in a liquid medium, through liquid nitrogen along with the liquid medium;

a step of filling the pellet-like frozen culture in a a container formed using a laminated body including at least a thin layer of paper and a thin layer of aluminum and having, at least in a portion the container, a vent port covered with an air-permeable filter material, made from an unwoven paper having microbial impermeability and air permeability of a range of 5 to 10000 sec/100 cc under JIS-P8117(Gurley method);

a step of hermetically sealing the container thus filled;

a step of heating the frozen material packaging body thus sealed in an unopened state to melt the frozen culture; and

a step of successively fermenting the frozen culture.

11. (new) A method of freezing and fermenting the culture according to Claim 10, wherein:

the liquid medium is milk;

the frozen culture is frozen pellets of bifidobacteria; and

the fermentative temperature is 37 Celsius degree.